

Civil cover sheet will expand number of case types tracked by court system Supreme Court order makes cover sheet mandatory starting Jan. 1, 2021

The Supreme Court has approved the use of a civil cover sheet to improve the collection of court data. Under <u>Supreme Court Administrative Order 2019-17</u>, use of the civil cover sheet will become mandatory on Jan. 1, 2021. You can find the cover sheet <u>here</u>. The cover sheet will expand the number of case types tracked by the Kentucky Court of Justice to ensure proper identification of civil case types and support uniform data collection statewide.

It will also better align Kentucky's data collection process with national standards and allow the KCOJ to accurately track the number of cases involving self-represented litigants. That data will guide future decisions about the allocation of resources, give judges additional information about new cases and improve the reporting of court statistics.

Throughout 2020, attorneys have been encouraged to use the cover sheet for all conventionally and electronically filed civil complaints. To date, approximately 2,900 civil cover sheets have been filed. Beginning Jan. 1, a cover sheet must be included with all conventionally filed civil cases. The eFiling application will be updated by the Jan. 1 start date to automatically collect the civil cover sheet data and will not require the cover sheet to be uploaded for electronic filings.

The civil cover sheet is one of several initiatives the Supreme Court has adopted based on recommendations from the Civil Justice Reform Commission. The commission was launched to address concerns about the cost, delay and complexity of civil litigation.

<u>Deputy Chief Justice Lisabeth T. Hughes</u> chairs the commission, which includes judges from all four levels of the court system, legislators from the House and Senate, attorneys from the plaintiff's and defense bars, a circuit court clerk and support staff from the Administrative Office of the Courts.

If you have questions about the civil cover sheet, contact the Division of Court Services at eCourtSupport@kycourts.net or 502-573-2350, x50109.



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